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BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
OFFICE OF DRY LAND AGRICULTURE

Washington, D. C.,
September 6, 1912.

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 31:

AKRON:

During the week ending August 24 the oats and barley on the rotations were threshed and samples prepared for the Bureau Exhibit at the Dry Farming Congress at Lethbridge. Corn and cane have made an exceptionally luxuriant growth this year but some of the corn plats are suffering from drought now.

AMARILLO:

Everything is looking very dry. The air is full of dust and the day time very sultry. Milo is ripening and kafir heading rapidly. Corn is dried so badly that it will not set an ear. Mr. Mundell of the Tucumcari Station visited this station Thursday.

ARDMORE:

Work on deep tillage experiments with explosives was begun August 29. Eight plats of one-quarter acre each were blasted. Sorghum and field corn was cut this week and all the corn plats will be harvested next week.

BELLEFOURCHE:

The fall plowing on the rotations was continued during the week. All of the fallow and green manured plats were harrowed on the 21st. Messrs. Scofield, Kearney and Farrel visited the station during the week.

DALHART:

The weather during the past week has been hot and dry with no predipitation. Most of the crops are beyond the stage of being damaged by dry weather and some of the early milo is ready to harvest. The second annual farmers' picnic was held Wednesday September 4.

EDGELEY:

Threshing has been in progress during the week and all of the oats and barley on the farm have been threshed. Nearly every field of potatoes in this locality is affected with blight and the entire crop on the station farm has the disease.

HAYS:

The weather for the past week has been very hot and windy. The temperature has passed the 100 degree mark every day, minimum for the week being 105, maximum 60. All corn on the project was harvested Monday, the 26th. The third annual convention of the Kansas Dry Farming Association was held on the station the 28th and 29th. Owing to the busy season and disagreeable weather the attendance was very small.

NORTH PLATTE:

The weather has continued hot and dry with several days quite windy. Corn is suffering considerably on the bench land in the small plats. The other corn is in very fair shape. No precipitation.

SCOTTSBLUFF:

With the exception of some feed grain and a few odd and end plats, threshing was completed on Tuesday. Satisfactory yields were obtained from all the work.

TUCUMCARI:

The week has been dry and windy with no precipitation. All crops maturing rapidly and will soon be ready to harvest on most of the plats. Mr. F. H. Jackson, Superintendent of Construction, arrived Monday and put in most of the week preparing the plans for the various buildings of the station. Professor Chilcott arrived Friday night from Billings, Mont. and will remain until Tuesday night, Sept. 3d.

WILLISTON: The weather has been favorable the past week for harvesting and threshing and much of the work in this region is well along. All of the threshing at the station was completed by the end of the week and some remarkable yields were obtained. One field of Siberian White oats yielded over 90 bushels per acre.

NOTE: Some of the Farm Superintendents in sending in the time of the laborers at the end of each month include time for men who have never been regularly appointed. These la borers cannot be paid on the regular pay roll without an appointment, and in all such cases a Form 3 voucher should be made out and sent in to cover such labor. A careful observance of this suggestion will prevent considerable delay to the laborers in receiving their monthly salaries.

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
OFFICE OF DRY LAND AGRICULTURE

Washington, D. C.,
September 14, 1912.

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 7:

AKRON:

The greater part of the week was spent in threshing the pea varieties and grain nursery. No precipitation during the week and some of the corn plats are firing badly. Most of the plats will make a fair yield and some will be very good as the ears were fairly well developed before they were affected by the drought.

AMARILLO:

Two showers during the week with a total of .2 of an inch. Plenty of wind and hot weather. Corn is being bound and milo will be cut very soon. The corn yield will just about equal the amount of seed used.

DALHART:

The weather during the past week has been cool with .3 of an inch precipitation. The second annual farmers' picnic was held Wednesday, attendance being very good and much interest taken in the work. Some of the early planted crops are ripening and give promise of good yields.

EDGELEY:

High winds and hot weather have prevailed most of the week. Threshing on the rotations was finished on Tuesday. Fall plowing on the rotations was begun on Wednesday. Maximum temperature for the week 90, precipitation .03 inch.

HAYS:

Weather has been dry and hot with strong winds blowing both night and day. There is a disease of some kind, unnamed by reliable veterinarians, going the rounds among the horses in Kansas which is proving fatal in nearly every case. Many of the farmers have lost from 1 to 10 horses and one man a few miles from the station has lost 16. None of the station horses have been affected yet but some are dying arond on every side and much uneasiness is felt at the station about the herd of 65 head of work horses and mules. This is a very serious thing for the farmers in this part of the state.

HETTINGER:

The last of the grains on the plats was threshed last Tuesday and some very good results obtained - the highest yield of oats being 72½ bushels per acre and of wheat 45 bushels per acre. Fall plowing on the station has been commenced. Corn has been maturing in fine shape and there is now considerable corn in the county that is ripe enough for seed. A few more days without frost will ripen practically all the corn except that which was planted too late or is of a large variety. The general yield of wheat throughout the country is about 18 bushels while oats are yielding about 40 bushels per acre. Total precipitation for the week .53 in.

NORTH PLATTE:

Corn burned very badly during the past week and some of the plats should have been harvested, but the corn binder was being used to cut corn for the silo. Expect to start harvesting on the 11th. Mr. Osborn, of the Akron, Colorado, Station, visited the North Platte Station on the 9th to look over the potato work and the general operation of the station. High winds and high temperatures have prevailed during the past week.

SCOTTSBLUFF:

Fall plowing on the dry land plats was completed during the week. Winter wheat was seeded on the dry land plats on Friday the 6th. Corn is drying up fast and the cutting of this is half done. The same disease that caused the total potato failure of last year has also appeared this year and has been the cause of the low yields.

TUCUMCARI:

The week has been dry and windy with no precipitation. Crops are maturing rapidly in all parts of the county. Mr. Thompson, Superintendent of the Chillicoth Station, visited the Tucumcari Station on Friday the 6th.

WILLISTON:

Fall plowing on the rotation plats will be done this week. The flax will be threshed in a few days and the corn will be harvested during next week. A light frost occurred on the low land on the night of September 1st but none was observed at the station.

NOTE:

There have been some inquiries from the Field Men in regard to the meeting of the Great Plains Cooperative Association this fall. On account of the lateness of the appropriation bill and the amount of work necessary to be done at the different stations, it has been decided not to hold this meeting this season.

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY,
OFFICE OF DRY LAND AGRICULTURE.

Washington, D. C.,
September 21, 1912.

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 14:

AKRON:
Fall plowing on the rotations were begun during the week. The E plats were subsoiled. Saturday the ground was white with snow but nothing was injured by frost. Precipitation for week 1.22"

AMARILLO:
Precipitation for week 1.92 in., falling slowing and putting the ground in fine shape. Very cool weather at the station.

BELLEFOURCHE:
A hail storm occurred on the 12th which did a great deal of damage to all crops not harvested. Corn is ready to cut but cannot be harvested until the ground dries considerably. Total precipitation for the week 2.13 in. No frost.

DALHART:
The last four days of the week were damp and cold. Crops are ripening slowly. Precipitation for the week 1.66 in.

DICKINSON:
Mr. Thysell, at this station, made a couple of trips through the neighboring farming districts and reports some very fine fields of both wheat and oats. Bench land fields looked better than upland.

EDGELEY:
The week has been cool and wet weather has interfered with threshing. Much grain is still in the shock in the neighborhood. Corn will be cut early next week although practically none of it is mature. Precipitation for week 1.25" including a small amount of ha

GARDEN CITY:
The rain during the week has put the ground in fine condition for winter wheat which will be sown as soon as the weather permits. The contractor has begun work making concrete blocks for the laboratory and work on the building will soon be started.

HAYS:
The weather has been cool, cloudy, and raining more or less every day since the 8th. Total precipitation for week 1.39". The horse disease is still killing many animals in the neighborhood of the station.

NORTH PLATTE:
The weather has been cool with precipitation of about 1.25 in. Light frost on the 14th, but no special damage done. There is considerable hay still standing in the vicinity.

SCOTTSBLUFF:

All of the dry land corn was cut during the week, but most of this corn dried up for lack of moisture. Some of the dry land corn varieties were also harvested and this also was prematurely ripened. Drizzly rain fell almost all the week and the weather has been uncomfortably cool, necessitating a fire in the office.

NOTE:

The field men are requested to take special note of General Order No. 160, dated Aug. 24th, 1912., in connection with the administrating of the oaths required by law to accounts for travel or other expenses by Postmasters and other officials of the Government. Several suspensions have been made lately on accounts sent in on which charges for notary fees have been made. Under the above numbered General Order these notary fees cannot be allowed.

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY,
OFFICE OF DRY LAND AGRICULTURE.

Washington, D. C.,
September 28, 1912.

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 21, 1912:

AMARILLO:

The weather has been cool and quiet this week. Milo was harvested today, September 21st.

BELLEFOURCHE:

Precipitation during the week was small, but the weather was cold and cloudy. The precipitation of the week before did not dry off enough to permit much field work being done. On Sept. 20th the wind averaged over 26 miles an hour for 24 hours. There has been no killing frost as yet. Maximum temp. for week 73°, Min. 34°. Precipitation .29 in.

DALHART:

The recent rains will delay the ripening of most of the late planted crops. Weather during the week has been cool with no precipitation. Maximum temp. for week 83°, minimum 42°.

EDGELEY:

It has rained for six days this week making a total of .85 inch. It is reported that some grain in shock is beginning to sprout, and unless the weather changes within the next few days considerable damage will be done. Frost Sunday night killed the corn and all vine crops. Min. temp. for week 31°. The total precipitation for Jan. 1st has been 21", and the normal is 17.60".

HAYS:

Weather continues cool and more or less cloudy all week, temperature ranging between 37° and 76°. No precipitation during the week. Kaffir and milo crops were harvested.

The horse disease, which most veterinarians are now agreed is in a form of Spinal Meningitis, is still killing many horses. Some farmers have lost every horse they had and left without a team to continue work. 50 mules were shipped to Hays to be sold to farmers, but the prices ask are unreasonably high.

HETTINGER:

The past week has been to wet to work in the field. The Adams County Fair has been held here during the last three days of the week, but the bad weather has kept most of the people away. Total precipitation for the week 1.38 inches.

HUNTLEY:

Stormy weather has made it impossible to do much field work this week. The first frost of the season occurred on the farm this week and did some damage to tender garden crops.

NORTH PLATTE:

During the past week all rye and winter wheat plats which had not been previously sown were put in. The soil was in good shape generally, and the wheat should come up at once. The wheat, which was sown in the corn stalks, is up nicely. A heavy frost occurred on the 18th and the week averaged quite cold.

WILLISTON:

The first killing frost of the season occurred on Sept. 16th. Considerable damage was done to corn and late flax. Corn was cut on the station Sept. 17th. Maximum temperature for the week, 77°, minimum 29°. Precipitation for the week, .59 inch.

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY,
OFFICE OF DRY LAND AGRICULTURE.

Washington, D. C.,
October 5, 1912.

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 28, 1912.

AKRON:

The remainder of cane, corn and millet cut the first part of the week, as it had been frosted a little on the 20th. Threshing of wheat varieties finished on Thursday, 26th. Winter wheat and rye on rotations sown Wednesday and Thursday. Light snow flurries occurred on the 24th, temperature dropping to 22°.

AMARILLO:

Weather was unfavorable for much outdoor work on account of cold winds. Plowing on the late plowed plats commenced. Rotation plats will be seeded in a few days.

BELLEFOURCHE:

Weather continued cold and wet during the week, there being only two days when field work could be done. First killing frost occurred on the night of the 24th.

DALHART:

The rains during the first part of September have caused some delay in the ripening of the crops. The weather has been cool and pleasant during the past week.

EDGELEY:

The entire week has been cold and the first half was wet. Some snow fell on Monday and Tuesday. Threshing has been going on, after the wet spell which lasted for about three weeks. Some of the grain was damaged during this wet period due to poor shocking. About 25% of the grain in the county has been threshed so far. Frost occurred on six nights thru the week, lowest temperature being 26°.

GARDEN CITY:

Winter wheat and rye were up Sept. 24th and are growing nicely, being about 2 inches high at present. A freeze on the morning of the 25th blackened the leaves of all standing sorghum crops. The seed on practically all of these crops was ripe and they are being cut. Several loads of concrete blocks and sand are on the ground ready for the construction of the laboratory building. Minimum temperature 27°.

HAYS:

The first frost of the season occurred on the morning of the 26th. All winter wheat and rye plats were seeded September 27th. The disease which has been killing off the horses in this state lately is thought to have moderated somewhat, probably due to the cool weather.

HETTINGER:

The week has been cold and damp and no drying weather The temperature with the exception of two nights has dropped below freezing and there has been both snow and rain to prevent field work to a very large extent. However, by working between storms the corn was harvested by Saturday.

HUNTLEY:

The plowing of the plats in the rotation fields was completed during the week.

TUCUMCARI:

No frosts in the vicinity as yet. Crops throughout the county are being harvested rapidly. The corn in the rotation plats has been cut and there is a good deal of fodder but not over ten to twelve bushels of grain on the best plats. The yields of grain from the kafir C. C. plats will be good. One plat of cottom has opened sufficiently to make a good first picking.